

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 1208 – SB 1320

April 8, 2013

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Authorizes a county election commission to consolidate one or more polling places, from one or more precincts, within the limits of the municipality for a municipal election not held in conjunction with another election.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Decrease Local Expenditures – \$15,100/Per Municipal Election Per County

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (006282):** Adds language to the original bill requiring the county election commission to publish in a newspaper, notice of the consolidation of one or more polling place. Requires the commission to mail each active voter a notice of the new polling place and the precinct number. Requires notice be given to the Office of Local Government of the Comptroller of the Treasury.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Decrease Local Expenditures – Net Impact –  
\$14,100/Per Municipal Election Per County

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Authorizing the consolidation of polling places would result in a decrease in local expenditures.
- The number of county election commissions choosing to consolidate polling places, the number of places consolidated, and the timing of consolidation cannot be reasonably determined.
- According to the Division of Elections, the General Assembly authorized seven county election commissions to designate a polling place outside the precinct it was to serve, but within the limits of the municipality, with enactment of Public Act 2012, Public Chapter 455. The enacted legislation provided estimated total savings of \$105,430 per election, thus average savings of \$15,061 (\$105,430 / 7 counties) per county.
- The decrease in local government expenditures as a result of this bill for each municipal election is reasonably estimated to be \$15,061 per county.

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- According to the Division of Elections, notice is already required to be mailed to voters.
- The requirement to publish a notice in the newspaper will increase local government expenditures for each county. The cost of publication will vary from county to county. The average county expenditure is expected to be less than \$1,000.
- The net impact is estimated to be a decrease in local government expenditures of \$14,061 per county (\$15,061 - \$1,000).

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/jaw